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REFERENCE:

ATTACHMENT TO L-1872
22 SEPTEMBER 1966
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MEKONG RIVER FLOODING
VIENTIANE, LAOS
1758N 10236E

1. SIGNIFICANCE:

MAJOR PORTIONS OF VIENTIANE, LAOS, HAVE BEEN INUNDATED BY THE FLOODING MEKONG RIVER.

2. COLLATERAL:

FIRST INDICATION OF SEVERE FLOODING IN VIENTIANE WERE RECEIVED ON 20 AUGUST 1966. SUBSEQUENT REPORTS INDICATED THE SUBSEQUENT OVERSHADOWING OF MOST MILITARY OPERATIONAL ACTIVITY IN ZONE 5. THE MAIN GOVERNMENT CONCERN WAS TO IMPLEMENT FLOOD-CONTROL AND REFUGEE RELIEF PROGRAMS IN VIENTIANE AND THE SURROUNDING FLOODED AREAS. THE FLOOD REACHED ITS CREST DURING THE FIRST PART OF SEPTEMBER, AND IS NOW RECEDING BACK TO ITS NORMAL LEVEL. A MAMMOTH CLEAN-UP AND REPAIR EFFORT WILL APPARENTLY BE REQUIRED TO RESTORE VIENTIANE TO NORMAL.

3. MISSION READOUT:

MAJOR SECTIONS OF VIENTIANE HAVE BEEN FLOODED BY THE MEKONG RIVER INCLUDING THE GRAND MARKET AND VIENTIANE AIRFIELD

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THE AIR ORDER OF BATTLE AT FLOODED VIENTIANE AIRFIELD INCLUDES SIX C-47, THREE HELIO COURIER, ONE UNIDENTIFIED FIXED WING, THREE UNIDENTIFIED TWIN ENGINE AIRCRAFT, ONE UNIDENTIFIED FOUR-ENGINE AIRCRAFT, ONE UNIDENTIFIED HELICOPTER, AND FOUR DERELICT C-47 AIRCRAFT.

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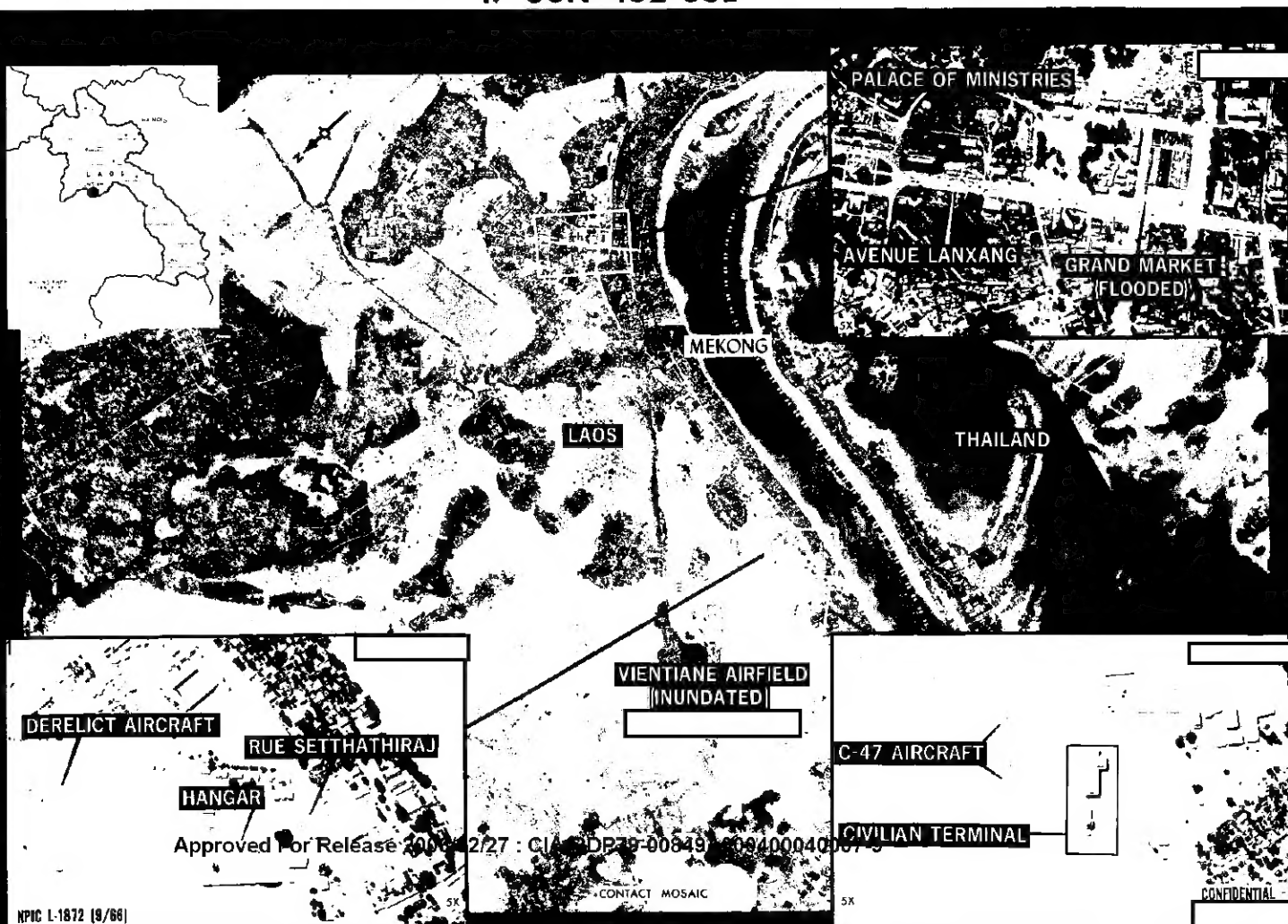
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MEKONG RIVER FLOODING VIENTIANE, LAOS 17-58N 102-36E

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